



Key: keep asking, 'Why, Mr. Shakespeare?'

## AP: Hamlet Essay Directions

**motif:** a recurring object, concept, or structure in a work of literature. A motif may also be two contrasting elements in a work, such as good and evil. A motif is important because it allows one to see main points and themes that the author is trying to express, in order that one might be able to interpret the work more accurately.

**Directions:** Write an essay showing the development of one motif and explaining how it contributes to the development to a thematic idea in the play.

1. Brainstorm different motifs in Hamlet
2. What themes can you connect to the motifs that you brainstormed.
3. Choose two motifs and write two thesis statements for them: Due Thursday
4. Share your two thesis statements with a partner. Decide on one to use for your essay.
5. Create an outline and include events and quotes from the play to support your thesis.
6. Rough Draft of essay submitted via Google Drive by Monday at 2:36 pm.
7. Final copy will be due **November 7th** via Google Drive.

### Things to remember:

Remember, when you cite a play you should use this format: (Act.scene.lines) Ex: (I.iv.82-85)

Hamlet is a play not a novel. Hamlet in italics is the play. Hamlet unitalicized is the character

